

Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-32. (Cancelled).

33. (new) A control system for a motor vehicle, comprising:

a manual actuating means with a plurality of degrees of freedom of adjustment for at least one of selecting and activating entries in a menu structure with a plurality of menu levels; and

a screen display having a plurality of display areas for displaying the menu structure, the display areas each comprising at least one field for displaying one of the entries,

wherein

at least two degrees of freedom of adjustment of the manual actuating means move a cursor in order to at least one of select and activate one of the entries in an active display area,

a first degree of freedom of adjustment corresponds to a rotational movement of the manual actuating means in the clockwise direction about a z axis which is perpendicular to an xy plane,

a second degree of freedom of adjustment corresponds to a rotational movement of the manual actuating means in the counter clockwise direction about the z axis,

a direction of movement of the cursor in the active display area which is brought about by at least one of the first and second degree of freedom of adjustment of the manual actuating means is dependent on the orientation of the entries displayed in the active display area.

34. (new) The control system as claimed in claim 33, wherein at least one of the individual display areas and the fields with the entries are arranged with a vertical orientation in a y direction and/or with a horizontal orientation in an x direction in the individual display areas on the screen display.

35. (new) The control system as claimed in claim 34, wherein when the entries are oriented vertically in the active display area, the first degree of freedom of adjustment brings about a movement of the cursor in the negative y direction, and the second degree of freedom of adjustment brings about a movement of the cursor in the positive y direction.

36. (new) The control system as claimed in claim 34, wherein when the entries are arranged horizontally in the active display area, the first degree of freedom of adjustment brings about a movement of the cursor in the positive x direction, and the second degree of freedom of adjustment brings about a movement of the cursor in the negative x direction.

37. (new) The control system as claimed in claim 36, wherein at least four further degrees of freedom of adjustment of the manual actuating means move the cursor in order to at least one of select and activate at least one of the display areas and the entries in the active display area on the screen display, the direction of movement of the cursor on the screen display corresponding to an instantaneous actuation direction of the manual actuating means which is actuated in accordance with one of the four further degrees of freedom of adjustment.

38. (new) The control system as claimed in claim 37, wherein the four further degrees of freedom of adjustment include a third and fourth degree of freedom of adjustment corresponds to a pushing movement of the manual actuating means in the positive or negative y direction.

39. (new) The control system as claimed in claim 38, wherein the four further degrees of freedom of adjustment include a fifth degree of freedom of adjustment and a sixth degree of freedom of adjustment corresponds to a pushing movement of the manual actuating means in the positive or negative x direction.

40. (new) The control system as claimed in claim 39, wherein the pushing movement of the manual actuating means for at least one of selecting and

activating one of the entries within the active display area corresponds to the orientation of the entries in the active display area.

41. (new) The control system as claimed in claim 40, wherein, in order to exit the active display area, the pushing movement of the manual actuating means is orthogonal with respect to the orientation of the entries in the active display area.

42. (new) The control system as claimed in one of claims 41, wherein the activation of that selected entry of the active display area which is assigned to an application or a function or a subfunction or an option is carried out by means of a seventh degree of freedom of adjustment of the manual actuating means.

43. (new) The control system as claimed in claim 42, wherein the activation of the entry in one of the display areas which is assigned to a status display is carried out as a function of a current system state which is determined by a control and evaluation unit and is determined by evaluating signals of vehicle systems.

44. (new) The control system as claimed in claim 43, wherein when there are a plurality of entries in a display area, the width of the individual fields when the entries are arranged horizontally is dependent on the length of the

respective entry, and when the entries are arranged vertically said width is dependent on the length of the longest entry.

45. (new) The control system as claimed in claim 44, wherein the field width when the entries are arranged horizontally is dependent on the number of entries to be displayed in this display area 25.

46. (new) The control system as claimed in claim 45, wherein the screen display has at least a first display area with a constant graphic basis structure over all the menu levels of the menu structure.

47. (new) The control system as claimed in claim 46, wherein the screen display has at least a second display area with a graphic basis structure which is variable as a function of an active menu level of the menu structure.

48. (new) The control system as claimed in claim 47, wherein, in order to display a first menu level of the menu structure on the screen display, a plurality of separate, vertically arranged display areas, at least one of which can be activated, are provided.

49. (new) The control system as claimed in claim 48, wherein, when an entry of an active display area is activated in the individual menu levels of the menu structure, a submenu which is dependent on the activated entry is opened

in at least one further level of the menu structure, and by activating at least one of the display areas it can be displayed in said area.

50. (new) The control system as claimed in claim 49, wherein the opened submenu can be displayed in the active display area and in at least one other of the display areas by an overlap of the graphic basic structure.

51. (new) The control system as claimed in claim 50, wherein a plurality of the submenus, can be displayed simultaneously on the screen display in the at least one further submenu of the menu structure.

52. (new) The control system as claimed in claim 51, wherein the plurality of submenus can be displayed with entries orientated vertically one next to the other.

53. (new) The control system as claimed in claims 52, wherein a first of the plurality of submenus is opened and displayed in the first menu level of the menu structure as a function of an activation of an entry, and a second of the plurality of submenus is opened and displayed as a function of an activation of an entry in the associated first submenu.

54. (new) The control system as claimed in claim 53, wherein all the opened submenus are closed simultaneously by means of a pushing movement of

the manual actuating means orthogonally with respect to the orientation of the entries of the active submenu away from the adjacent submenu, and only the active submenu is closed by means of a pushing movement of the manual actuating means orthogonally with respect to the orientation of the entries of the active submenu in the direction of the adjacent submenu, and the adjacent submenu is activated for a new selection of an entry.

55. (new) The control system as claimed in claim 54, wherein at least one of the number, the graphic display and contents of the entries to be displayed in the display areas are variable and/or constant as a function of at least one of current system states, a current menu level and a currently activated application.

56. (new) The control system as claimed in claim 55, wherein a presettable application can be displayed in at least one of the first display areas, the number and the position of the entries to be displayed being constant as a function of the preset application, and the contents and the graphic display of the entries to be displayed being variable and/or constant as a function of current system states.

57. (new) The control system as claimed in claim 56, wherein at least one of the first display areas is configured as a status bar with at least one horizontally arranged field for displaying at least one status, the number, the

position, the contents and the graphic display of the entries to be displayed being variable as a function of at least one of current system states and application states.

58. (new) The control system as claimed in claims 57, wherein at least one of the first display areas is configured as an application line for displaying an application group with various selectable and predefinable applications including an audio application, navigation application, communications application, video application and vehicle application, the number and position of the entries to be displayed being constant, and the graphic display of the entries to be displayed being variable as a function of an activated application.

59. (new) The control system as claimed in claim 58, wherein at least one of the second display areas is configured as an application area for displaying details and controlling a selected and activated application, the number and the position and the graphic display of the entries to be displayed being dependent on the activated application.

60. (new) The control system as claimed in claim 59, wherein at least one of the first display areas is configured as a subfunction line for displaying and selecting at least one of functions, subfunctions and options of an activated application, the number and the position and the graphic display of the entries to be displayed being dependent on the activated application.

61. (new) The control system as claimed in claim 60, wherein a graphic display of the cursor is variable as a function of at least one of the active display area, an active application and active menu level.

62. (new) The control system as claimed in claim 61, wherein the cursor can be displayed graphically as an independent object on the screen display or by changing the graphic display of a currently selected field.

63. (new) The control system as claimed in claim 62, wherein a field which is selected with a cursor changes at least one of field color, shape and size.

64. (new) The control system as claimed in claim 63, wherein at least one of field color, shape and size of the cursor can be changed as an independently graphically displayed object on the screen.